

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 5, 2005. Claims 1-61 were pending. By this Amendment, new dependent claims 62 and 63 have been added, and claim 28 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 1-63 are now pending, with claims 1, 14, 15, 29 and 43-45 being in independent form.

Claim 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as purportedly indefinite.

By this Amendment, claim 28 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 is requested.

Claims 1-10, 15-24, 28-54 and 58-61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,622,174 to Ukita et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,601,037 to Kolls et al. Claims 11, 12, 25, 26, 55, 56 and 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ukita in view of Kolls and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,875,422 to Eslambolchi et al. Claims 13 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ukita in view of Kolls and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,884,246 to Boucher et al.

Applicant has carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 15, 29 and 43-45 are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

This application relates to a facsimile apparatus which includes the capability to occupy the attention of a user of the facsimile apparatus while the user is waiting for a document (fed by the user) to be scanned or transmitted by the apparatus, by displaying advertisements on the facsimile apparatus. The facsimile apparatus includes a scanner section, a display device and a

network interface device. The facsimile apparatus further includes means for acquiring advertisement information from an advertisement server connected to the network via the network interface device, and displays the advertisements on the display device, while the document is being scanned or transmitted. Each of the independent claims includes these features.

Ukita, as understood by Applicant, is directed to a handheld communication terminal (such as a PDA). The handheld terminal of Ukita includes a browser which allows the user to surf the Web. Thus, like other Web-enabled terminals, the terminal allows advertisement information to be provided to a user of the terminal. In addition, Ukita proposes that the terminal can have additional communication functions, including limited facsimile communication capability. Ukita proposes that the user can use a memo function to enter the information to be faxed, and then selecting a fax transmission function to transmit the memo by facsimile transmission.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, Ukita does not disclose or suggest a facsimile apparatus including a scanner section for scanning a document.

Indeed, Ukita does not purport to be directed to facsimile devices which allow a user to scan documents and fax the scanned documents. Since Ukita is specifically targeted to handheld communication terminals which allow a user to have communication capability on-the-run, it would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the terminal of the communication terminal of Ukita to include a scanner section for scanning a document. Further, one skilled in the art simply would not have looked to Ukita when confronted with the problem of unoccupied time which a user of a scanning-type facsimile device might encounter while waiting for a document to scan or transmit.

Therefore, it would not have been obvious to modify the handheld communication terminal of Ukita to provide a facsimile apparatus including a scanner section, wherein advertisements are displayed while a user of the facsimile apparatus is waiting for a document (fed by the user) to be scanned by the scanner section, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 1.

Kolls, as understood by Applicant, is directed to a public access e-commerce station which allows public access to e-mail, electronic commerce, and electronic business. Kolls proposes that the public access e-commerce station can vend assorted electronic commerce and business related products and services, and therefore the station may be configured to include assorted information technology equipment such as copiers, phones, facsimile machines, printers, data-ports, laptop print stations, notebook computers, palmtop computers, microfiche devices, projectors, scanners, cameras, modems, communication access, personal data assistants, pagers, and other vending machines, personal computers, Internet terminals, etc.

In addition, Kolls proposes to display advertisements at the station while the station is being used, to further stimulate commerce at the station. The user is provided with means for purchasing the advertised goods or services via the station.

However, Kolls does not disclose or suggest tying the display of advertisements to use of the facsimile device or scanner device at the station. Indeed, Kolls proposes that the advertisements can run at any time that any of the features of the station is being used. Koll's objective of displaying the advertisements is to generate commerce and not to occupy the attention of the user while the scanner device or facsimile device is being used.

Applicant submits that the claimed invention of claim 1 simply would not have been obvious from Ukita and Kolls.

The other cited references were cited against dependent claims of the present application.

Eslambolchi, as understood by Applicant, is directed to automatic language translation in a telecommunication network.

Boucher, as understood by Applicant, is directed to techniques for translating communications transmitted via a computer network from a first language to a second language via the Internet.

Applicant does not find disclosure or suggestion in the cited art, however, of a facsimile apparatus comprising a scanner section, a network interface device, an advertisement information acquiring device, a display device and a displaying control device, wherein advertisements are displayed while a user of the facsimile apparatus is waiting for completion of facsimile tasks, such as scanning of a document by the scanner section, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 1.

Independent claims 15, 29 and 43-45 are patentably distinct from the cited art for at least similar reasons.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 15, 29 and 43-45, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art.

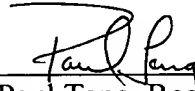
In view of the amendments to the claims and remarks hereinabove, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional claim fess and any other fees that may be required in connection with this amendment

and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Teng", is written over a horizontal line.

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